

ABSTRACT

A hanger assembly for suspending an external store from an aircraft includes left and right side panels in hinged connection to a center panel, where the panels, in combination, form a band for substantially circumferentially surrounding the external store. The center panel includes an interface for engagement with an attachment pod on an aircraft, and the side panels are fastened in tension to each other diametrically opposite the interface. The length, thickness and material strength of the band are selected to minimize the bending moment, which is induced in the hanger assembly based on loading experienced during operational use, at a region of the band at which an interface is established with the aircraft.